

sc. ///. KING HENRY V.

417

What feats he did that day: Then shall
our names,
Familiar in their mouths ² as household
words,—
Harry the king, Bedford, and Exeter,
Warwick and Talbot, Salisbury and
Gloster,—
Be in their flowing cups freshly
remember'd:
This story shall the good man teach his
son:
And Crispin Crispian shall ne'er go by,
From this day to the ending ³ of the
world.
But we in it shall be remembered:
We few, we happy few, we band of
brothers;
For he to-day that sheds his blood with
me,
Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile,
This day shall gentle his condition ⁴:

and remember to tell them ¹ with
advantage/* Age is commonly
hoastful and inclined to magnify past
acts and past times.

JOHN
'SON

²Familiar in THEIR MOUTHS —] i. e. in
the mouths of the
old man /tc who has outlived the battle
and come safe home/¹
and ¹ his Mends ¹ This is the reading of
the quarto which I have
preferred to that of the folio,—his mouth;
because *their cups*, the
reading of the folio in the subsequent
line would otherwise an-
near if not ungrammatical, extremely
awkward The quarto
reads—in their flowing *bowls*; and there
are other considerable
variations in the two copies.

MALONE.

³ From this day to the ending —] It may be observed that we
are apt to promise to ourselves a more lasting memory than the
changing state of human things admits. This prediction is not
verified: the feast of Crispin passes by without any mention of
Agincourt. Late events obliterate the former: the civil wars
have left in this nation scarcely any tradition of more ancient his-
tory, JOHNSON.

4 — gentle his condition:] This day
shall advance him to the
rank of a gentleman. JOHNSON

King Henry V inhibited any person but
such as had a right by
inheritance or grant to assume coats of
arms except those who
fought with him at the battle of
Agincourt and I think these
last were allowed the chief seats of
honour at all feasts and pub-
lick meetings. TOILET

That Mr Toilet is right in his account is
proved by the origi-
nal writ to the Sheriff of Southampton and
others printed in Ry-
mer's *Foedera* anno 5 Henry V vol ix n
4, 57. And see more

fully on the subject Anstis's Order of the
Garter, vol. 108; *
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